



CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs
State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102

BY CERTIFIED AND REGULAR MAIL

October 28, 2014

Renee M. Carpentier, D.V.M.
C/o Joseph Breymeier, Esq.
Naulty, Scaricamazza & McDevitt, LLC
1617 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 750
Philadelphia, PA 19103

RECEIVED and FILED by the
NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF
VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS
on this date of: 11-12-14 **DA**



JOHN J. HOFFMAN
Acting Attorney General

STEVE C. LEE
Acting Director

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 45020
Newark, NJ 07101
(973) 504-6500

Re: In The Matter Of RENEE M. CARPENTIER, D.V.M.,
Complaint #97863
Offer of Settlement in Lieu of Disciplinary Proceeding

Dear Dr. Carpentier:

The New Jersey State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (hereinafter the "Board") has had an opportunity to consider and review a consumer complaint, filed by E.G., concerning the professional services you rendered to her dog "Dudley," then an eleven (11) year old male English Bulldog, at the Raccoon Valley Animal Hospital, in February 2014. The complaint alleged, among other things, that you engaged in negligence, professional misconduct and that you failed to properly diagnose the dog's condition.

Specifically, the information reviewed by the Board included, but is not limited to, the following documents:

1. A complaint filed on or about March 18, 2014, by E.G., as well as any and all attachments and exhibits;
2. A letter, dated March 30, 2014, from Renee M. Carpentier, D.V.M., to the Board, as well as any and all attachments and exhibits; and
3. Medical record of "Dudley" G.

Upon review of all available information, the Board has found that probable cause exists to support a finding that you violated, as well as failed to comply with, the statutes and/or regulations governing the practice of veterinary medicine, contrary to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h), and specifically, N.J.A.C. 13:44-4.1(b), in that you directed the administration of a controlled substance to a patient without ever seeing or examining the patient or establishing a veterinary/patient/client relationship.

The Board's review into this matter revealed that Dudley was presented to the Raccoon Valley Animal Hospital ("Hospital") on February 24, 2014 for dental procedures performed under general anesthesia by another veterinarian at the Hospital. The dog was sent home in the afternoon. The dog's owner, E.G., noted that Dudley was lethargic, salivating and painful and

maintained that she was not able to administer the pain medications prescribed because Dudley was inappetent. She contacted you at the Hospital and, after gathering some history, you advised, among other options that E.G. could return Dudley to the Hospital for an injectable pain medication if she was unable to orally administer the prescribed medications.

E.B. returned Dudley to the Hospital later that evening on February 24th. The dog was evaluated by an unlicensed technician who, acting pursuant to your orders, administered an IM dose of buprenorphine and discharged Dudley. You, at no point during this visit prior to the administration of the medication, did not perform a physical examination of Dudley in order to make any medical judgments based on your examination. You also did not examine the dog prior to his discharge. Approximately, thirty minutes later, the owner called back to the Hospital with complaints that the dog was sedate and pale. Upon his arrival back to the Hospital, you evaluated Dudley. You concluded that your observed signs were secondary to the buprenorphine injection and partially reversed the sedation with a dose of naloxone. E.G. remained concerned about Dudley's condition and you recommended referral to an emergency facility which was declined by the owner. Dudley unfortunately died several hours later at home.

The Board has concluded, following its review of this matter, that sufficient evidence exists which indicates that you violated, or failed to comply with, the statutes and regulations governing the practice of veterinary medicine, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h), and specifically, N.J.A.C. 13:44-4.1(b). Specifically, the Board finds that your failure to physically examine a post-operative brachiocephalic patient which you had not treated before and to meet the client and thereby establish a veterinarian-client-patient relationship - by examining the patient, determining the condition of the dog and discussing your findings, and any options, with the owner, etc., - prior to ordering the administration of the controlled medication, by an unlicensed technician, constitutes a violation of N.J.A.C. 13:44-4.1(b).

Hence, the Board has concluded that there is sufficient evidence to initiate formal disciplinary action against you relative to the veterinary care you rendered to Dudley. Notwithstanding that determination, however, the Board has decided that it will first offer you an opportunity to settle this matter, thereby avoiding the initiation of disciplinary proceedings, should you consent to:

1. Cease and desist from violating N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h) and N.J.A.C. 13:44-4.1(b);
2. Pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,500.00, to be paid immediately upon your signing of the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter, for your violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h) and N.J.A.C. 13:44-4.1(b); and
3. Provide proof of full attendance at, and successful completion of, a minimum of five (5) credit hours of Board pre-approved courses of continuing education in the areas of Emergency and Critical Care, and of a minimum of five (5) credit hours of Board pre-approved courses continuing education in the areas of Pharmacology, within six (6) months of your signing of the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter.

Settlement Letter
Renee M. Carpentier, D.V.M.
October 28, 2014
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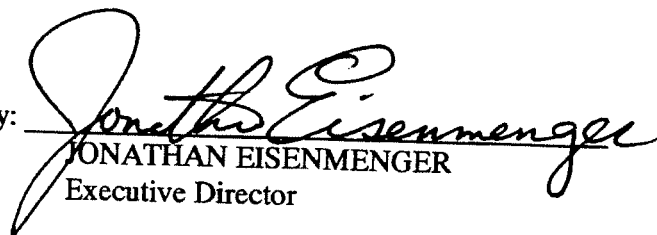
If you are willing to settle this matter on the offered settlement terms, you may do so by signing the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter, and returning it to the Board office with payment of the civil penalty. In such an event, this letter will be a matter of public record.

In the event that you are unwilling to settle this matter on the offered terms, it will be referred to the Attorney General's Office for the initiation of appropriate disciplinary action. In such event, you will be afforded an opportunity to defend against the alleged violations. If an evidentiary hearing is deemed warranted, the Board will either conduct that hearing at a date and time to be scheduled or refer the matter to the Office of Administrative Law. You are advised, however, that in the event that formal charges are filed, the Board may assess civil penalties in an amount greater than that herein offered in settlement should any charges against you be sustained. Additionally, the Board may, if the facts are found to so warrant, enter an Order requiring you to reimburse certain monies and/or requiring you to pay costs incurred by the Board. Should you have any questions concerning this letter, or the settlement offer herein, I suggest you contact Deputy Attorney General Olga E. Bradford, who may be reached at (973) 648-3696.

If you elect to settle this matter presently, you should sign the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter and return it to the Board with your payment within fifteen (15) days following your receipt of this letter. In the event that the Board receives no response from you within fifteen (15) days, the Board's settlement offer will be withdrawn, and the matter will be referred to the Attorney General's Office for the initiation of appropriate disciplinary action.

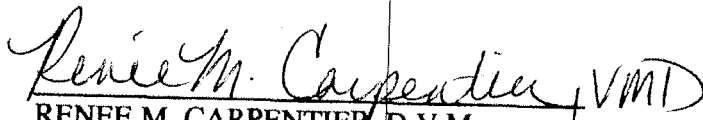
**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF
VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

By:


JONATHAN EISENMENGER
Executive Director

cc: Olga E. Bradford, Deputy Attorney General

ACKNOWLEDGMENT: I, RENEE M. CARPENTIER, D.V.M., hereby acknowledge that I have read and reviewed the settlement proposal set forth in the above letter. I acknowledge the conduct that had been charged. I am aware that, by signing this acknowledgment, I am waiving any rights I may have to defend myself against any charges of wrongdoing at an administrative hearing. I am also aware that the action taken against me by the Board herein is a matter of public record, and that this letter is a public document. I hereby agree to pay a penalty in the amount of \$1,500.00, for violating the provisions of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h) and N.J.A.C. 13:44-4.1(b). I also agree to comply with all other requirements set forth in this settlement letter, including the successful completion of the required continuing education courses.


RENEE M. CARPENTIER, D.V.M.

11/3/14
DATED